

SELLING TURBULENT SLAVES OR RUNAWAYS FOR A TERM.

38. If any slave for a term of years shall run away from his owner, the Circuit Court, or the Orphans' Court of the county or city where the owner resides, upon the apprehension of such slave, may extend his term of service to a longer term, so as fairly to indemnify his owner for all expenses and loss occasioned by the absconding of such slave; and the said courts, on the application of the owner, may grant an order for the sale of all the right of said owner to said slave, to any person within or without this State; *Provided*, such court shall be of opinion that the absconding of such slave was not occasioned by the improper conduct of the owner or his agent.

39. Such order for sale shall express the term of service of such slave, and the purchaser may remove him out of this State, and hold him to service during the term set forth in said order.

40. On the passage of such order, or on the passage of an order under the following section, the clerk or register of the court granting the same shall furnish said slave with a copy, under seal, of the deed of manumission, if he be entitled to freedom by manumission; or if he be entitled to freedom by will, then a copy under seal of so much of the will as may be necessary to show when and on what terms such slave is entitled to freedom, together with a copy under seal of the order of the court directing the sale, the expense whereof shall be paid by the owner.

41. The Circuit Courts for the several counties and the Criminal Court of Baltimore, may authorize the owner of any slave for a term of years, to sell the unexpired time of said slave, when his conduct is notoriously vicious and turbulent, to any person who will transport such slave beyond the limits of this State; *Provided*, said courts shall require and be satisfied by the testimony of a disinterested witness that the party applying for such grant has distinctly and particularly notified such slave of the existence and effect of this law, and that this information has failed to correct his habits, before they proceed to issue any such grant of authority.